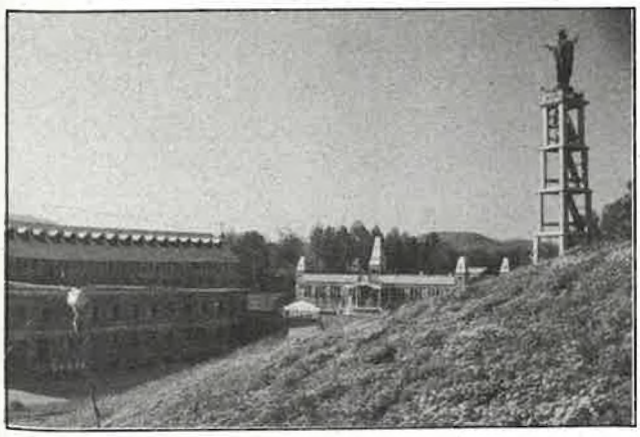
$5.00

Number 82-83
DEC. 1997-JUNE 1998

SANGRE DE CRISTO NEWSNOTES

By Father Daniel E. Jones, T.O.D.M. • Box 89, Westcliffe, Colorado 81252 • (719) 783-2491

May 1998 photo of a smiling statue of Our Lady, The Mystical Rose, at the Apostles of Infinite Love mission near Ste. Veronique, Quebec.



MONASTERY OF THE MAGNIFICAT OF THE MOTHER OF GOD at St. Jovite. This is THE PLACE!!!

NEWS & VIEWS

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

Well, I'll bet some of you were wondering if this issue would ever get out. Your editor was wondering the same! Like I promised, there are lots of photos and some very good spiritual reading material in this issue. Father Weber's reflections, beginning on page 4, on how to read and meditate the Holy Gospels, sets the foundation. Some of us are going to find the article (on page 10) on the Holy House of Loretto of significant interest. The house where the Word became Incarnate and which the Holy Family called home, is no small relic.

A new Pentecost is on the way. The prayer on page 14 should melt your heart!

The Era of Mercy page 28 and Seek Truth and Flee Deceit page 35 are full of solid and consoling food for God's children. Ezekiel lamented that the shepherds fed themselves but not the sheep. (Ez. 34:8) The new shepherds God is raising up, like Fr. John Gregory of the Trinity, O.D.M., are feeding the flock, thanks be to God!

BIG EVENTS

Big Events are underway on planet earth! God is going to sweep aside everything that opposes Him. Only a little number see clearly the reason for the Chastisment and the Work of God which is being raised up to usher in a new age. Humility and charity

Cont. on page 2

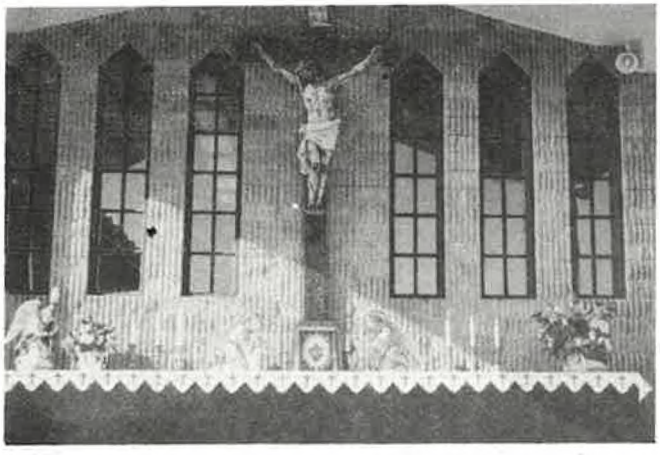
NEWS & VIEWS

(continued from page 1)

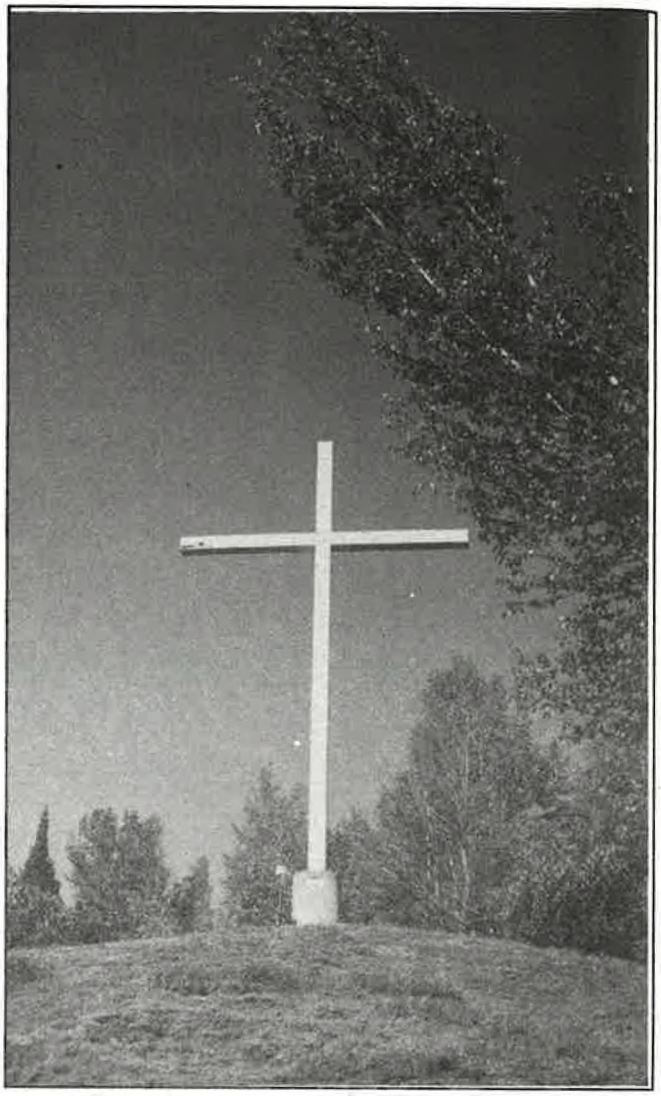
and the Cross of Jesus will soon rule the world, not a worldly United Nations, or money, or any of the vassels of Satan which for the moment "appear" to be in charge. A FIGHT IS AT HAND, and Our God, His Christ and Our Mother Mary will rule. This is the victory that overcomes the world, our FAITH. (I John 5:4 and see Hebrews 11).

A DOUBLE ISSUE

By necessity I have had to combine two issues. I think you are nevertheless getting your money's worth. If you feel otherwise, you are free to let your subscription drop when it expires. $10 a year to help a poor, beleaguered priest in his apostolate is not a big sacrifice for most. If you really want a super, regular magazine that is mailed out around ten times a year, then I heartily recommend you subscribe for $12 a year to the MAGNIFICAT, P.O. Box 308, St. Jovite, Quebec, Canada J0T 2H0.



Outdoor altar at the MAGNIFICAT monastery.



Large cross overlooking the MAGNIFICAT monastery. The cross was erected Sept. 14, 1989.

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Published semi-annually
by Father Daniel E. Jones, T.O.D.M.

Subscriptions:
SDCN, Box 89
Westcliffe, Colorado 81252
1 Year: $10.00 **2 Years: $20.00**
Back issues: $5.00
3 for $10.00
10 for $25.00

Editor: Father Daniel E. Jones
Secretary: Mrs. Patricia Scavo

Richard Slusher of Pueblo, Colorado, was ordained a deacon by your editor on December 15, 1997, feast of Blessed Melanie Calvat of La Salette.

Father Dan and the newly ordained deacon, Richard Slusher.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Pueblo, Colorado where the ordination took place.

Interior view of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 1404 East 21st Street. Mass every Sunday at 10:00 A.M.

Christmas 1997 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

HOW TO READ AND MEDITATE ON THE HOLY GOSPEL

- by *Canon Alfred Weber*

Reading the Gospel is of primordial importance for every Christian. To be useful, however, our knowledge of the Holy Gospel must lead to a change in our life, in our judgment and behavior. In a word, the Gospel must become the absolute criterion for our way of judging, the rule that dictates what we must love, what we must believe and do to win heaven. *"Enter by the narrow gate, for wide is the gate and broad the path that lead to perdition, and many are they who take it. But narrow is the gate and close the path that lead to life, and few are they who find it."* (John 8:47)

We must read the Gospel in view of finding this path. Otherwise, we satisfy ourselves with lip service and hollow sentiment. Sad to say, there are practically no more true Christians today. Millions of people wear the label -- but only the label, nothing more. ***The Imitation of Christ*** declares, *"Let your chief study be to meditate on the life of Jesus Christ."* (Bk. 1, ch. 5, nos. 1-2) To spur us on in this study, we offer the following text by Canon Alfred Weber, a great lover and promoter of the Holy Gospel at the beginning of the century.

Before all else, pray. Pray with ardor, because knowledge of the Gospel is a most excellent grace.

Unfortunately, it often happens that God speaks and is not understood. Our Lord told the Jews that to hear the Word of God, you have to be of God: *"He who is of God hears the words of God. The reason you do not hear is that you are not of God."* (John 8:47)

Therefore, if our good Master does not deign to open our understanding so that we may grasp His Word, as He did for the Apostles before returning to heaven -- *"Then He opened their minds, that they might understand the Scriptures"* (Luke 24:45) -- and if the Holy Spirit does not preside over our reading, enlightening and touching our soul, then perhaps we may savor the unique charm of Sacred Scripture that has delighted even unbelievers, but **we will never derive any real spiritual benefit from it.**

Rather, it is prayer -- prayer born of a burning desire to hear our beloved Saviour's voice and comprehend His thought in its entirety -- that will obtain this precious gift for us.

We will treat our Gospel with profound reverence and love it with a love that is true: for **every word in the Gospel is an echo of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.**

A purifying, healing virtue flows from every page of the Gospel, far more than from the Saviour's robe long ago. *"The very sight of this Book makes us stronger than sin! It suffices to simply touch the Gospel for our thoughts to improve and turn away from earthly things,"* states Saint John Chrysostom.

The Gospel constitutes a supremely effective weapon against Satan, an invincible rampart against which his rage is hopelessly dashed. Thus the best of the early Christians carried it constantly over their heart and wanted it to be placed on their mortal remains as a pledge of immortal hope.

If it is true, as ***The Imitation of Christ*** declares, that all of Scripture must be read in the spirit that dictated it, and if we must read every inspired book with humility, simplicity and faith in order to improve, never seeking fame through knowledge (Bk. I, ch. 5, nos. 1-2), then how much the more must we strive to do so when we open the Holy Gospel!

No book ever written by the hand of man, however beautiful and holy it may be, no book ever dictated by the Holy Spirit Himself to the prophets could ever compare to the Book of Christ. In the Gospel, as in the Holy Eucharist, we have God for us, God with us, the Word of God within us.

Required dispositions

For the Gospel to bear fruit, we should read it with the right dispositions:

* *Deep penetrating Faith:* Jesus the Saviour is going to reveal Himself to me, dust and ashes! He is going to speak to me. O my soul, contemplate, listen and adore! Above all, pray, ask the Divine Master to open your eyes and your heart.

* *Great good will:* Have one desire only: to know what Jesus wants to teach us and what He expects of us. Be convinced that in these blessed lines there is a thought especially for us, for me... one word that will be **a beacon of light for me in my present state of soul.** Let us tell our good Master with real and sincere generosity, *"Speak, Lord, Thy servant heareth!"* (I Kings 3:9)

* *Ardent love and profound gratitude:* How adorably good of God to stoop down to His tiny creature and open His Heart to him as a friend to a friend, as a brother to a brother, as a tender mother to her cherished child! **How good of Him to have chosen to dwell with us throughout the ages** in order to give Himself to each one of us -- not only in His Living Presence in the holy Tabernacle, but also in His Living Word in the Holy Gospel.

* *Unshakable constancy:* We must be careful not to let the simplicity and humility of the Gospel scandalize us. **All is simple and humble in Our Lord.** The Gospel presents itself to us beneath very humble appearances. But let us respectfully draw the veil and enter in; soon we will discover that the truth shines like a star and throbs like a heart in each word of Sacred Scripture.

"Seek and you shall find."

The Gospel is *"the field containing a treasure."* (Matt 13:44) But this treasure is hidden, **it cannot be found at first sight.** To discover it, we have to work the soil, dig in and turn it over on every side. We will surely find it if we seek without tiring, seek while praying.

Our first reading might seem fruitless, but a second will turn up a few gold nuggets. **We will discover the treasure little by little in successive readings,** until we fall to our knees before the splendors of the infinite truth and beauty, the infinite justice and goodness of our Emmanuel. And a cry of adoration and love shall spring from our hearts: *"My Lord and my God!"*

If we follow these guidelines, the Gospel will truly become the Bread of Life. Divine life will penetrate every fiber of our soul; soon, as Saint Paul says, we will have no feelings, no life within us but that of Christ Jesus. (Phil 2:5) then our noble title of *Christian* will have its full, glorious meaning, and **we shall be other Christs.**

Read the Gospel with continuity, from first chapter to last, just as you would a story. Everything follows and connects in the adorable mystery of the Son of God living among men; everything fits into a harmonious, delightful unity.

To see Jesus clearly... to see even into His Heart, while awaiting the moment we shall see Him face to face: is this not the holy ambition of every true Christian? *"We wish to see Jesus!"* (John 12:21) That is the ardent wish of souls today. They want to see Him, not in a fleeting glance that leaves but a trace behind. They want to see Him long and close-up in order to know Him well.

The Gospel is not a book to be set aside once we have read it through. If we read it with the required dispositions, we will read it again and forever, not only with great edification, but with an ever-increasing charm. The Gospel will truly become our Book, or rather our inseparable friend. It will be our Emmanuel -- and, along with the Holy Eucharist, it will be our soul's daily bread until the last day, when we will finally go to contemplate face to face the One whose evangelical knowledge will have been the ineffable grace of our life and our pledge of eternal happiness.

How to meditate on the Gospel

To begin with, could we read and study the Gospel with the dispositions we have just set forth, and not lend it our faith and our heart? Could we walk in our good Master's footsteps and enter into His intimate life without opening our soul to His? Finally, could we see Him so closely and witness so much love and virtue without reproducing His divine resemblance in ourselves? Such are the fruits of the finest of all meditations.

The words of Saint Pius X are therefore justified: "No book of meditation can compare with the Holy Gospel." Indeed, none other lends itself so well to every kind and degree of mental prayer, from the most elementary to the most sublime.

To guide souls more surely in using the Divine Book for meditation, please allow us to mention one of the most precious memories of our life:

The priests' retreat in our diocese was preached by Monsignor Guyol that year. It was surely one of the most fruitful retreats God ever granted us the grace to attend. The preacher's words were full of light, warmth, magnetism. On hearing him, our hearts were inflamed with divine fire like the disciples of Emmaus.

The further this retreat progressed, the more we felt that the real preacher was none other than Our Lord Jesus Christ Himself. A pious illusion? Not at all. So faithfully did the apostle echo our Master's voice that it would hardly be possible to find a more perfect realization of His divine affirmation, *"He who hears you, hears Me."* (Luke 10:16) The entire Gospel unfolded before us in an order wonderfully measured to the needs and aspirations of our souls. We felt we were living in the blessed time of Our Lord, following Him among His disciples; like them, delighted by His lessons, we would willingly have spent whole days and nights listening to His words.

Where had our preacher acquired such remarkable knowledge of the Sacred Book, and such an incomparable gift of reconstituting scenes throbbing with life and interest? We were soon to find out...

He began speaking about mental prayer and touched upon the important point of books of meditation. Reviewing those most in favor with the clergy, he outlined the character of each with great praise. We had only to choose the one best suited to our needs and tastes. Then he made this remark:

"I tried almost every one of these authors; but honestly, I must admit that none fulfilled my ideal until the day I finally discovered the author of my dreams. This time I was perfectly satisfied! I was finally about to learn *'the great art of conversation with Christ.'* (Imitation Bk. II, ch. 8) Until then I devoted a half-hour a day to mental prayer, and sometimes that half-hour seemed to stretch into an eternity. After my fortunate discovery I went a whole hour, and the end of the exercise always came too soon.

"I am sure you are eager to know the title of my book and its author's name. Well, I won't keep you in suspense: the author is Our Lord Jesus Christ, and the title of the book is the HOLY GOSPEL."

After revealing this secret to us, our preacher then described his method. It is far from complicated, as you will see. Indeed, it is very, very simple...

The evening before, carefully read the passage you will use as the subject of your meditation. Restore it in its historical and geographical context, pause over the points you want to concentrate on. Reflect on it before going to sleep, when you waken during the night, on rising in the morning.

When the time comes, make acts of immediate preparation, concentrating on the act of faith in the Divine Word: I see the Divine Master before me, His Heart about to open. He is the One I am going to hear.

"Blessed is he in whom the Truth itself teaches." (Imitation Bk. I, ch. 3) One by one, I will gather the adorable Words about to fall from His lips: they are Jesus Himself. I will feed upon them and assimilate them; thus I will commune with the Word of God.

Then open your Gospel and kiss it reverently. Attentively re-read the sacred text prepared the evening before, seeking Jesus' Word for you, the word you need today: word of light or strength, word of encouragement or comfort. Dwell on this word as long as it captivates you, letting your heart fill up with gratitude and love, your will with generous, intrepid resolutions.

Jesus has spoken to you, now He listens to you. Speak to Him as to a friend, with the abandon of Magdalen at His feet, with the delightful familiarity so pleasing to Him that Heaven itself looks on in wonder.

Then, after savoring this Word, go on with your reading until you encounter a new attraction, like a bee gathering honey from flower to flower. As these heart-to-heart talks become more intimate, our good Master will permeate you; you will enter into Him. He in you, and you in Him, with the sweet understanding that He is transforming you till you conform to His divine likeness.

Finally, conclude with a practical, effective, precise resolution. Place it under the protection of the Blessed Virgin. Next, before closing your Gospel, kiss it once again with all your heart. Then, thoroughly filled with Jesus, go with Him and do His Will wherever He calls you by the voice of duty.

I tell you truly, were you to live as long as the Patriarchs before the Deluge, you could never exhaust the treasure hidden in these sacred pages.

Saint Theresa of the Child Jesus once wrote, *"It is above all the Gospel that I meditate on during my mental prayers. There, I find all I need for my poor little soul. There, I always discover new lights, hidden, mysterious meanings."*

But you may say, "That is fine for the sunny days of the soul. But there are so many cold, dark, foggy days in the climate of my spiritual life that the word of grace escapes me all too often. What should I do then, when my Gospel is just as mute and closed as I?" Bless those days! They are planting days. If the reading you prepared fails to create any vibrations in your soul, keep reading! If one chapter is not enough, read two, keeping to the literal meaning. You will derive a threefold benefit: you will have the merit of having tried to do fervent meditation, doubled with the sacrifice of unsuccess; you will have learned your Gospel, which is hardly wasted time; you will have planted your soul for future harvests.

Our Lord says, *"This is the kingdom of God, as though a man should cast seed into the earth, then sleep and rise, night and day, and the seed should sprout and grow without his knowing it. For of itself the earth bears the crop, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when the fruit is ripe, immediately he puts in the sickle because the harvest has come."* (Mark 4:26-29)

So shall it be with the divine seed cast into the furrow of your soul on that cold, foggy morn. It will receive sunshine and rains without your realizing it. In latent labor it will sprout, grow and ripen. A lush spiritual harvest will cover your poor soul which seemed a desert just a while ago. God assures us: no word coming out of His mouth shall remain without its fruit.

The man who wrote the following had experienced this: "I want to make the Gospel more and more intimate to my heart. I will place it there every morning in meditation, as I place Jesus truly present there in Holy Communion. Thus I will make my soul like the tabernacle of altars in ancient times where the Body of Christ in the Eucharist reposed side by side with the Word of Christ in the Gospel." For these are the two inseparable treasures of the true friends of Jesus.

Letter From Mom

August 31, 1997

Dear All,

"In the Sacraments, it is God himself who comes to annihilate our enemy. The Devil, seeing him in our heart, throws himself despairingly into the bottomless pit; which explains why he does all he can to draw us away from them, or to make us receive them badly." St. John Mary Vianny - the Cure of Ars.

As you all know, there are now 7 of you, mostly gone "out the door". All of you have been taught the same about why you are on this earth. First you are all gifts from God to your father and I. Second, to know, love and serve God in order to be happy in this life and eternity.

The world, the flesh and the devil will always be your enemy. These 3 things will be your temptations till death of your body, but your soul will never die.

Our family has been over blessed so far in this time of times. God showed your parents the truth about feeding our bodies as well as our souls - for most of you, the taking care of your bodies has become a top priority - staying away from white flour, sugar, etc. It is nice to see that happen!

We have all been through confusing times when it comes to our souls. Our church has been literally taken away from us here in Montana - some of you have choices of getting there. God is good and somehow we here have been blessed to have a priest come to us and bring us the Mass and Sacraments at least once a year! But - along with the Sacraments and Mass, we need to pray daily (talk to God, His Mother, and the Saints and Angels). God gives us 16 waking hours a day and asks us to pray 15 minutes to 1/2 hour of each day. We are tempted daily to forget or take for granted our lives. We must fight this temptation daily - believe me, I receive the same temptations!!

I truly believe if you will pick your rosaries back up and put your scapulars back on, you will be drawn by these, back to God. When we make decisions without praying about them, sometimes God allows us to do our will instead of His will. I learned that many years ago through experience. Our will usually isn't His will and we find life much harder or much more expensive.

Don't confuse this with crosses given to us by God. Without them there will be no crown, but some crosses are made by us.

"Here is a rule for everyday life: Do not do anything which you cannot offer to God." Cure of Ars.

Today, Princess Diana was taken away from us and Casey and I were reading the instruction on the Gospel concerning

cont. on page 9

Photo taken in the hospital 8-20-97 of the Michael Dolan Family of Plano, Texas. Heather is D.J. and Rose Green's oldest daughter.

death. Many of our friends, relatives and friend's children have been taken on into eternity - I found this explanation to be so truly honest that I decided to write it out to you. Please excuse the length.

If there were locked up in prison several hundred persons, on whom sentence of death had irrevocably been pronounced, yet who knew not the day or hour of their execution; if one after the other, and often he who least expected it, were taken out to be executed; would not each one's heart tremble, whenever the prison door opened? Now the irrevocable sentence of death is pronounced on us all; we are all locked up in our bodies, as in a prison. One after the other is called hence, yet we do not regard it. We live as though we could live forever; we think only of the body, but for the soul nothing is done, except that we load it with sins and vices.

Is this rational? The body will be food for worms, but the soul (without knowing when) will travel into the house of eternity, to which place she must bring treasures of good works, in order to live happy for ever. Who would, therefore, be so foolish as to care only for the body during life, and neglect the salvation of the soul?

Should not these thoughts make an impression upon you? How can you escape this terrible future? By living now, as you would wish to have lived at the house of death. Die daily with St. Paul by crucifying the flesh and its lusts and by voluntarily withdrawing your heart from the world, its pomps and vanities, before death will do this by violence. Taken from "Explanations of the Epistles and Gospels - Goffine copyright 1880.

Tonight I felt a need to write to you all - as you know, I pray daily for you all and your spouses and now grandchildren. I have been blessed to be with you, Heather and Nicole, to see my four grandchildren within minutes of their births. Thank God for cesarian births or you and your children would have been taken during the births. We are living in a time when we know almost instantly, news from around the world. God has given us wonderful knowledge in the past 100 years. Remember tho, all the knowledge will not get us to heaven - it's how we act upon the gift given to us.

We are all too busy in a busy world to stop and think once in a while about our eternity. Remember everyday that we have each other and our big family is a gift. My father was taken away from me 50 years ago on Sept. 7 and your father's dad almost that long too. I cherish the long lives given to Grandma Green and Grandma Deschamps - also that my brothers and sisters and I have all been so blessed - Gosh, we are in our 50's now. God took awful good care of us, even with the loss of out father!

I want you all to know how much I love and pray for you all to be happy and that you will know God's will in each of your lives. Please pray for your father and I and our future too!

Mom

"Grammie Rosie" in Texas 1-10-98 with baby Drue Catherine and Michaela Marie (age 3 1/2). God is Good!

MIRACULOUS TRANSLATION OF THE "SANTA CASA," OR HOLY HOUSE OF LORETO (1291 & 1294 A.D.)

The Holy House of Loreto is the very house in which Jesus led His "hidden life" in Nazareth. This is the story of how it was transported to Italy by Angels over 700 years ago, in 1294.

The feast of the Translation of the Holy House of Loreto in Italy is celebrated on December 10. The Roman Martyrology makes mention of it on that day in the following terms: ***"In Loreto, translation of the sacred house of Mary, Mother of God, in which the Word was made flesh."*** This mention was inserted into the martyrology by the Sacred Congregation of Rites in Rome on August 31, 1669.

After the unfortunate outcome of the Crusades, the Blessed Virgin Mary did not want **the house in which the divine mystery of the Incarnation of the Word made flesh was fulfilled** to remain exposed to the outrages and profanations of the infidels.

To bolster the courage and piety of the Christians of the West, **God commanded the Angels to carry the house of Nazareth,** which had been the scene of the greatest mystery of all, to a place where it would receive their homage and become an inexhaustible source of grace and comfort for them.

FIRST TRANSLATION

In **1291,** during the pontificate of Pope Saint Celestine V, the house of the Blessed Virgin, a shrine the Apostles had once venerated, was **transported to Dalmatia by Angels during the night** and set upon a hilltop between the cities of Tersatto and Fiume. The people living near the spot were wakened by the heavenly light surrounding the holy dwelling; they hastened to it with respect and fear to witness the great wonder. They did not know what this miraculous shrine could be, but they understood that God was manifesting His goodness toward them. They went there on pilgrimage, some sick people were healed, and news of the wonder soon spread far and wide.

Bishop Alexander of Tersatto had been gravely ill for a long time and lay dying at that moment. He was told of the translation of the Holy House and that there was a statue of the Blessed Virgin inside, and he understood that **this house was consecrated to Mary.** In his heart, he felt an ardent desire to go there to render homage to the Mother of God; but the effort would inevitably lead to his death.

The Virgin Mary, pleased with his pious desire, appeared to him at night in his sleep and told him that the holy dwelling transported by the Angels was **the one in which the mysteries of Her Nativity and of the Incarnation had been fulfilled.** She added that **the altar inside was consecrated by Saint Peter,** and that **the statue of Herself was sculpted by Saint Luke.** In pledge of the truth of Her words, She granted the bishop an immediate cure. **This revelation left no room for doubt,** and it was a great joy for the area to possess such a treasure.

SECOND TRANSLATION

The holy abode did not remain long in Dalmatia. After three and a half years, much to the regret of the inhabitants of the area, **the Angels carried it across the Adriatic Sea to the Marches of Ancona and set it down in the vicinity of the city of Recanati,** in a grove of laurel trees that belonged to a pious matron called Loretta, from which the name "House of Loreto" was later derived.

These laurel trees bowed down with respect at the arrival of the Holy House; traces of this veneration in nature remained for many a year. Shepherds watching their flocks by night were the first witnesses of this great wonder, and soon Recanati and the entire surrounding area was well informed about it.

THIRD TRANSLATION

Many miracles occurred near the Holy House, and the number of pilgrims increased day by day. Profiting from this concourse of the faithful, brigands began robbing them, making the pilgrimage unsafe. **After eight months, the Holy House rose into the air again and was set down atop a nearby hill.**

FOURTH TRANSLATION

The owners of this property, two brothers, argued over the offerings. Thus it was that **two months later, on December 10, 1294, Angels carried off the shrine and set it down on the spot where it has remained since then.**

COMMENTARY ON THE TRANSLATION

Father J. Darras writes:

"These successive transmigrations are a striking image of religion's eternal pilgrimage through the human passions. But it finds its place of rest at last; men will not be able to halt its mercy and hide from its love forever.

"From the start, it was obvious that **Our Lady of Loreto would become more popular than the most famous pilgrimage sites,** including that of St. Martin of Tours *(France)* and St. James of Compostello *(Spain)*. This is the logic of faith, for **in Loreto the Queen of all Saints is venerated in Her own home.**

"**Many conversions and miracles occurred, supporting this movement of piety.** People began pouring in from the furthest provinces of Italy and from foreign countries.

"Over 200 years after this last translation, the miraculous proofs had greatly accumulated. Pope Clement VII chose new delegates (some had been sent to Dalmatia the first time) from the papal court and sent them to Dalmatia and Nazareth to examine the places in which the Holy House had been located. **This new inquiry left no doubt concerning the authenticity of the miraculous translation.**

"Clement VII's envoys went first to Dalmatia, then Palestine. Though the Dalmatians were sad over having lost the heavenly treasure, they showed them the site which the Blessed Virgin's house had occupied, and upon which they had constructed another one similar to it, all the while admitting that it was not the same one. In Nazareth, results of this second inquiry did not differ from the first."

OBJECTIONS LEVELED

Various objections raised against the miraculous translation of the Virgin's house to Loreto have not held against the authority of the Church, which accepts the fact and recognizes its authenticity by countless favors granted to Loreto pilgrims, an office instituted by Pope Innocent III, and the feast in honor of the translation.

The multitude and gravity of proofs in favor of the translation of the Holy House have disarmed even the severest critics. Thus it is no surprise that the Church wished to institute a special feast in remembrance of such a striking miracle, proven daily by other miracles and resting upon the authority of many serious witnesses.

All temples of God are holy; all sanctuaries in which Jesus, the Divine Victim, immolates Himself are places where prayer rises to God with an almost irresistible power. But in *this* shrine **the Lord God, in answer to the prayers of Mary and the Saints, assumed our flesh and raised the Virgin to a dignity so high that the Seraphim and the Cherubim could never have thought it accessible to a creature,** had God not revealed it to them.

A NEW TRANSLATION SOON?

According to prophecies by Saint Benedict Joseph Labre and Blessed Anna Maria Taigi, **the Holy House will one day be miraculously transported again, to a place chosen by God and known to Him alone.**

TESTIMONY OF THE SAINTS

Mary, the Mother of Pure Love, has filled Her abode with *the odor of purest balm.* (Ecclus. 24:21) Vessels hold the scent of perfumes they once contained; so is this house, which contained all that is sweet in heaven and on earth, impregnated with heavenly scents.

The presence of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is still felt in this dear dwelling. SAINT LOUIS MARY DE MONTFORT (+1716) said, "One can almost see Them and hear Them conversing. **The *Light of the world* still appears to illuminate the Room,** and Mary's shrine still gives it joy. We are prompted to exclaim, *Let me see you, let me hear your voice, for your voice is sweet, and you are lovely.*" (Cant. 2:14)

In an outburst of divine love, SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES (+1622) exclaimed, "O lovely Spouse of the Eternal King, here, then, are Your joists of cedar and planks of cypress!... **This is the place, O Lord, where You became my brother.** Who will grant me the grace of seeing You at Your Mother's breast and kissing You devoutly?" A supernatural light shone upon the Saint's face as he prayed in this way, kissing the sacred walls.

The face of SAINT ALPHONSUS LIGUORI (+1787) beamed like a Seraph's as he kissed the utensils used by the Holy Family.

VEN. JOHN JUVENAL ANCONA (+1595), a disciple of Saint Philip Neri, was full of such devotion to Mary in this blessed place that he said, **"My heart feels alive only in Your presence;** but if I may not remain with You, at least let me die here beneath Your gaze!"

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER (+1552) was inspired to bring the Gospel to India and Japan at the feet of the Virgin of Loreto. He healed many Orientals of all sorts of diseases by having them touch the LITANY OF LORETO *(see this prayer in back of this month's letter),* written for them in his own hand.

SAINT FRANCIS BORGIA (+1572) was healed of a burning fever in this shrine.

SAINT JAMES OF THE MARCHES (+1476) celebrated Holy Mass on the apostolic altar with the intention of obtaining **sufficient health to dedicate himself to the ministry of preaching.** At the end of that Mass, the Blessed Virgin appeared to him and assured him that his intention had been answered.

The House of the Holy Family was so dear to **SAINT BENEDICT JOSEPH LABRE (+1783)** that he went to visit it eleven times. He made all these long pilgrimages on foot from Rome, with **holes in his shoes and insufficient clothing for the inclement weather and cold** in the snow-clad Apennine Mountains. During his last pilgrimage, God revealed to him that he would die soon afterward.

The narration of the miraculous arrival of the Holy House is attributed to **BLESSED PETER,** Bishop of Macerata, and concludes with this fervent invocation:

"O Holy Chapel, it is true that you are little and poor to the eyes of flesh, but **you are richer and more precious to the eyes of the spirit than the palaces of kings and even the Temple of Solomon.** O venerable Chamber wherein was placed the greatest treasure the world has ever possessed! O stone more precious than the precious stones of the East! How often did you echo the words that the Son spoke to His Mother as well as those that the Mother exchanged tenderly with Her Son!

"O divine Sanctuary, from which **so many prayers of the Son rose to His heavenly Father,** where so many tears of compassion flowed from the eyes of the Son and of the Mother for the salvation of sinners!"

SAINT CHARLES BORROMEO (+1584) loved the house of Mary so dearly that he was in the habit of **remaining inside to pray there all night long.**

Let us add the following testimony concerning the favors received by **BLESSED JEAN JACQUES OLIER** (+1657) founder of the Sulpicians, according to his own description:

"As I entered the church, I was touched so vividly and moved so warmly by the Blessed Virgin's caresses that **I had to surrender myself to my Saviour.**

"I felt such lively movements that, bathed in tears, I insistently asked the Blessed Virgin to obtain my death if She foresaw that I would fall back into my past sins; but, thanks be to God, I have not fallen since.

"My God, **how useful to sinners are the places dedicated to the piety of the Blessed Virgin!**

"This was the most powerful stroke of my conversion... Besides **the healing of my eyes** — and I have not had cause to be anxious about my eyesight ever since — I also received **a great desire for prayer;** for I recall having zealously asked to be able to spend the night in this Holy House...

"**It is there that I was born to grace,** and Mary caused me to be reborn to God in the very Place where She had engendered Jesus Christ."

Seventy years in advance, the seraphic SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI (+1226) predicted the spot that had been chosen by Heaven to be the site of the Holy House. He told the Friars Minor at Sirolo seventy years before the translation that this hill, which was then barren and unknown, would one day be honored by the presence of **a Shrine that would be no less sacred than another one that was then in the Holy Land (Palestine).**

SAINT NICHOLAS OF TOLENTINO (+1310) also, though many years later than Saint Francis, often brought his ecstatic gaze to bear upon the near future. Thus it was that **he waited daily for the arrival of this heavenly gift.**

SAINT BRIDGET OF SWEDEN (+1373) received the following revelation: ***"Whoever visits the Place where Mary was born and raised will not only be purified, but will become a vessel of honor."***

Let us conclude with a famous vision of **SAINT JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO** (+1663). One day this great servant of Mary saw the Angels enter the Holy House of Loreto with their hands full of heavenly gifts: "O God, what do I see?" he exclaimed. "But then, why would the Angels not descend upon this Holy House, where the Lord of Heaven Himself was not loath to descend and become Man?"

Indeed, **the "Santa Casa" is nothing less than *the House of God* and *the Gate of Heaven.*** (Genesis 27:16-17) It is Jacob's ladder which unites earth to heaven, whose foot rests on the earthly Abode and whose top touches the Abode of glory. **It is the ladder of the children of the true Rebecca, the ladder of ascent from sin to grace, from this world to paradise.** Atop this ladder, the choirs of Angels are singing a hymn that makes heaven rejoice and hell shudder. This is **the hymn of the deliverance of humanity and the triumph over the devil, the hymn of Redemption from death and the gift of life everlasting.**

Heavenly music ravished the soul of Saint Joseph of Cupertino, who had become like an Angel himself and literally took flight, lighting down twenty feet away at the foot of an almond tree. On returning to himself, he asked Brother Peter of Urbino to sing the Christmas Antiphon with him.

What Saint Joseph of Cupertino said to Brother Peter, he says to us all:

"Look and behold, and see the mercies of God which, like an abundant rain, are inundating the Sanctuary. O blessed Place! O most happy Dwelling!"

ASK AND YOU SHALL RECEIVE

The following is a prayer by Father John Gregory of the Trinity made spontaneously at the Monastery of the Apostles, St. Jovite after High Mass on Pentecost Sunday, May 17, 1970

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we consecrate ourselves to You. Take possession of our entire being. May we ever repeat the cry of the Our Father: *"Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven!"* May we fulfill God's Will in our life as it was fulfilled in Your life, in the life of Your Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and in the lives of Your Saints.

CONFORMITY TO THE WILL OF GOD

Grant us, O Lord, to know Your Will and good pleasure, all that is most pleasing to You. Give us the strength to execute Your desires promptly. May we have the courage to do so at once, or as quickly as possible, never postponing the accomplishment of Your desires upon us.

Grant, O my God, that all our acts, thoughts and undertakings be entirely conformed to Your Holy Will. Let us see with Your eyes, hear with Your ears; let us judge everything in harmony with You; let us hear or see nothing but what You would hear and see. May we speak only words worthy of You, our great Model whom we must imitate in all things.

You who said to us, *"I have given you the example, that you may do as I have done,"* (John 13:15) You who commanded, *"Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect,"* (Matt. 5:48) help us! You want no word to come from our mouth that is not worthy of the perfection You expect of us. Give us that grace on this Pentecost Day.

LOVE ACCORDING TO GOD

Unite our hearts to Yours. May our every heartbeat be for You, my God. May we love what You love: the poor, the suffering, the needy. May our affections always be in accordance with You, my God.

UNDERSTAND ACCORDING TO GOD

May we understand with Your mind. May we have Your vision; may we judge nothing in our ordinary human manner, but always ask ourselves, *"How would Jesus regard this?"*

O my God, communicate Your Spirit to us, that we may judge all things as You do. May we serve You with our whole will and be given entirely to You.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, send us Your Holy Spirit to teach us to love You and live through You, through Your Eucharist, Your grace, with You, never losing sight of You, living in Your Presence, recalling Your divine teachings in the Holy Gospel.

May they be imprinted in our memory and in our heart. Following the example of Your divine Mother, may we keep all these things in our heart. *"Night and day, I meditate on Thy words,"* says the Psalmist. (Psalm 1:2) May we always reflect on what You have told us in Your Holy Gospel and love to read Your divine teachings to imbue mind and heart with them; may our whole being be concentrated on the accomplishment of Your divine wishes.

"GOD WILLS IT!"

Come, Holy Ghost, make our bodies Your temple. May we never, by a rejection of Your Will, cast You out of the temple where You have come to dwell.

May we have the cult of the Will of God! *"God wills it!"* said Saint Bernard, and crowds were inflamed. *"God wills it!"* What God wills is sacred. *"My food is to do the Will of My Father."* (John 4:34) May it be our food! May we always seek to know the Will of God, not seek to bypass it but accomplish it, whatever the cost.

Obedience to the Will of God

Of our little life, Only obedience to God will remain. O Lord, grant us the grace to understand the importance of the accomplishment of Your Will in all things, and how everything outside of God's Will is cursed, is an abomination before God, however holy the action might be in itself. We know it in theory, we read it in all the writings of the Saints and in Your Gospel: *"He who accomplishes the Will of My Father, he it is who loves Me."* (John 14:21) *"It is not those who say, 'Lord, Lord,' who will enter the kingdom of heaven, but those who do the will of My Father."* (Luke 14:26) How many times have You told us? But we are so slow to understand!

Deign, O Jesus, to overcome our hardness of heart and ignorance! Enlighten us, make us understand the importance of accomplishing Your Will. *"God wills it!"* That should be everything for us. May we accomplish Your Will at the cost of any sacrifice; in Your Holy Gospel, You have told us that if necessary, we must be ready to die to do Your Holy Will: *"If someone comes to Me and does not hate his very life, he cannot be My disciple."* (Matt. 14:26)

Give us the courage to do Your Will. Give us the love of Your Sacred Heart, that we may serve You with our whole heart, our whole soul, our whole mind, and our whole strength. Take possession of all our faculties of body and mind; rule our sentiments and emotions. May we never get carried away by our human impressions, but may we judge everything by Your light. Show us what You think about each thing, that we may conform to Your sentiments. Take possession of our intelligence, our will, our memory, our imagination. Adjust everything in conformity with Your Father's designs of love.

May we be docile instruments in the hands of God, fit to accomplish all His wishes, His Will, His desires.

Efficacious Graces

O Holy Spirit of Love, give us abundantly of Your efficacious graces – graces that produce effects, like the wind of Pentecost. Come, stir us out of our torpor! Come, Holy Ghost, awaken us! Come, give us energy, ardor, fervor to serve God! Grant us this grace, we humbly pray!

In the name of Your Infinite Mercy, in the name of Your Holy Mother, grant us this grace! Grant us the fullness of all the virtues. Give us a living faith, an ardent hope, inflame our hearts! Bestow upon us the fullness of Your sevenfold gifts, their fruits, and the evangelical beatitudes.

The Gift of Fortitude

Grant us the gift of Fortitude which makes man intrepid, ready for every sacrifice, ready to do and suffer everything for Your love. Many see what they must do but have not the courage to begin. O my God, give them the courage to do Your Holy Will! Life is so short! God claims our nothingness to give Himself in return, He, the Supreme and Infinite Good. But we are petty, we measure our gift.

We Insult God

Have mercy on us, O my God! Forgive us for our outrage in weighing You in balance with the nothings we are and with the nothingness of creatures. We offer You this insult constantly, and You endure it. When we meditate on Your Passion, we are indignant over the insult made to You when You were compared to Barabbas. A scoundrel, preferred over You! We are indignant, but we do worse; we constantly put You on the scale with the little nothings of earth. We prefer our little "me" to You, the Supreme Good.

THE FORGIVENESS OF GOD

O my God, we ask Your forgiveness for our insults. Heed them not, for we are not intelligent. Give us the gift of Intelligence. We are limited, we are foolish.

Deign to excuse us for comparing You with trifles, with dung. *"I count all things as dung that I may gain Christ,"* says Saint Paul. (Phil. 3:8) We prefer manure to You. Deign to excuse us for insulting You this way, for You are the Supreme and Infinite Good, the Source of all happiness. We prefer a little fleeting happiness. We are like a poor child to whom one wishes to give $10, and who wants to keep his five cents instead. That child does not know what $10 is worth; he prefers to keep his shiny new nickel, held tightly in his hand.

GIFTS OF INTELLIGENCE AND WISDOM

We are like that, my God. Give us the gift of Intelligence to understand the value of divine things. Grant us the gift of Wisdom to savor them, to appreciate things at their true value, to act properly. We lack wisdom, we do not know the value of things. We are like a little dog that prefers a bone to $100,000.

O my God, we ask You again: Give us the intelligence to appreciate divine things, that we may never set You on the scale, that we may flinch at nothing, that we may be ready to do everything for You.

This little nothing, we call it "everything." Make us understand that it is out of mercy that You told us in the Gospel to abandon "**all**." Rather, You should have said that we must abandon the **nothing** in order to possess the **All**. But You knew that we did not have much intelligence. *"He who abandons everything to follow Me..."* (Matt. 19:29) Poor Jesus! You had to use our words; our "everything" is dung compared to You.

May we have the intelligence to regard the joys of earth as such, like Saint Paul Your Apostle, in order to possess You, the Supreme Good, with all Your infinite gifts. He who possesses You, possesses all; but to find You, we must leave the nothings.

Many souls insult You by scorning You. We would like to make honorable amends to You, my God, for ourselves first, and for all our brothers and sisters on earth, for all of humanity which scorns Your gifts, for Your priests and bishops to whom You have given the powers of heaven, and who have abused Your gifts.

THE MERCY OF GOD

We are among these scoundrels You must endure so patiently. What an example You give us! We are impatient with our neighbor, from whom we have nothing to suffer compared to what You bear from us. And You endure us, You love us.

We thank You for Your patience, Your charity, Your mercy, Your kindness, Your forgiveness; we thank You with all our heart. How good You have been, my God, to bear with us! You never cease to bestow Your grace upon us, despite our constant affronts and scorn. We would not have the courage to bear anyone who treated us this way. You are our greatest Benefactor, and we treat You as though You were a malefactor!

O my God, have mercy on us today! Perform a miracle, do something for us! Heed not the insults we have given You. We are a source of such disappointment to You! You are always faced with nothing. Surely, You come and tell us what to do... but Your instructions go in one ear and out the other: the containers are full of holes! Try to get a little of Your teachings and of our own resolutions to remain within us.

O my God, if we did not have absolute confidence in Your mercy, we would fall into despair. You told us to forgive seventy times seven times. (*Cf.* Matt. 18:21) You practice what You preach; that is what causes us to hope in Your mercy. Had You not given us a little glimmer of Your patience and kindness – You who, despite all our countless deeds of ingratitude, grant us protection in every way – we would have no more hope.

If we looked only at what we have done against You, my God, we would despair and could await nothing from You. We would want to flee and do as Judas did; like that sorry individual, we would say, "Our sins are too great! It is no longer possible to receive God's pardon." It is true that You have chosen us, but we have trampled on Your grace! We have been so ungrateful that it is impossible for You to continue to concern Yourself with us; we are too defiled, too repulsive.

O my God, in the name of Your Infinite Mercy and of the Blessed Virgin Mary, purify our souls today; send down Your fire, as You sent it down upon Your Apostles. Light the fire of love in our souls; consume all that is displeasing to You, and grant us Your grace once again!

SACRIFICE EVERYTHING

Grant us, O my God, the grace to understand the malice of our behavior, the gravity of our resistance to grace. By the Holy Spirit, grant us the grace to practice Your Gospel. *"He who abandons everything* [the nothing we call "everything"] *will receive a hundredfold in this world, and eternal life, infinite happiness, in the next."* (Matt. 19:29) In Your goodness, You promise us the hundredfold, even in this world. However, we act as though Your word were not true.

And yet, all Your Saints are there to prove this to us. Who has been happier on earth than Your Servants and Your Saints? In all their woes, their souls overflowed with joy. Their lives are a constant witness to the truth of Your words. And yet we doubt. The proof: we are still not ready to leave "everything."

O my God, give us the grace to sacrifice everything, that we may be Your disciples, enter into Your kingdom, become Your apostles, savor the felicity You reserve for Your servants, even in this life. *"I overflow with joy in the midst of my tribulations,"* said Saint Paul. (II Cor. 7:4) Instead of dragging our unhappiness around, may we too overflow with joy amid our sufferings. Grant us this grace, we humbly pray. We place all our trust in Your mercy. That is why we do not let ourselves fall into despair.

We trust You will forgive us again. Try us out again, take us back and do not reject us. *"Who can stand before Thee?"* asked the Prophet King. (Ps. 8:5) Yes, my God, if You do not exercise Your mercy, who can stand? You found fault even in Your Angels. We have done nothing but offend You. What would become of us without Your mercy? We offend You far more than we realize; we are so blind that we offend You without even noticing it. We do shocking things and think they are acts of virtue, so deep in darkness are we.

O my God, pour Your lights upon our souls. Give us the love of children for their Father, the gift of Piety. Make us loving children; may we be eager to please our heavenly Father, and You, most meek Jesus, and Your beloved Mother Mary. May our entire concern be the accomplishment of Your good pleasure.

Amen.

Father Glen Michaletos, T.O.D.M. at St. Philomena's Church in Hilton, South Africa.

Part of Fr. Glen's "flock" at St. Philomena's.

Fr. Glen with some more of his "flock".

Fr. Glen wrote on the back of this photo: These are the ladies who work at the Anglican "Wafer Room' in Pietermanizburg. They supply hosts to us (including Fr. Dick's mission) free of charge, since we qualify as missionaries. L. to R. Gwen, Michelle, Mary, Lizzie & Roseabell (that one sounds like something from the deep south U.S.!).

Probably a village somewhere near Durban, South Africa.

God put some colorful birds down there for our South African brothers and sisters to enjoy!

January 1998 at St. Jovite: Father Glen, T.O.D.M., and Fr. Jerusalem, O.D.M. enjoy a visit with "Gambi".

On Main Street of St. Jovite.

During the Christmas and Epiphany seasons one sees all kinds of pretty ice sculptures and decorations in Quebec, Canada.

Rural home near St. Jovite with Mount Tremblant, Quebec's highest peak, in the background.

Nice little house near St. Jovite. Seems much of the population of "Catholic" Quebec has perhaps forgotten "the reason for the season". Jesus!

Now that's not a bad looking snowman! Bet he never dreamed his picture would someday be in an international newsletter!

Ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you.

Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ
St. Luke 11:9

Monastery of the Apostles, St. Jovite, QC, Canada

If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ
St. Luke 9:23

Monastery of the Apostles, St. Jovite, QC, Canada

They who belong to Christ have crucified their flesh with its passions and desires.

Epistle of St. Paul
Galatians 5:24

Monastery of the Apostles, St. Jovite, QC, Canada

Saint Frances X. Cabrini
Patroness of Immigrants

DO NOT LOOK forward to the trials and crosses of this life with dread and fear. Rather, look to them with full confidence that, as they arise, God to Whom you belong, will deliver you from them.

He has guided and guarded you thus far in life. Do you but hold fast to His dear Hand, and He will lead you safely through all trials. Whenever you cannot stand He will carry you lovingly in His arms.

Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow. The same Eternal Father Who cares for you today will take good care of you tomorrow and every day of your life. Either He will shield you from suffering or He will give you the unfailing strength to bear it.

Be at peace then and put aside all useless thoughts, all vain dreads and all anxious imaginations.

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

MOTHER CABRINI LEAGUE
434 W. Deming Pl. • Chicago, Illinois 60614

We are very sorry but we have bad news about the two books you are requesting.
The Travels of Mother Cabrini is no longer in print and no copies are available, but the good news is that one of the sisters is going to revise it in the near future; when we don't know.
The other book I have never heard of,nor have any the nuns in the office. Sorry
Please be assured of our prayers for your intentions and remembrance in the novena devotions offered at the National Shrine. We are enclosing some of our literature.
Thank you. May God bless you always.
4-24-97

Sincerely yours in the Sacred Heart of Jesus,
The Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart

SAINT FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI

Born in Sant'Angelo, Lombardy, Italy, July 15, 1850.

Founded the Institute of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart in 1880.

Came to the United States for the first time, March 1889, and opened schools, orphanages, and hospitals in several cities.

At the age of 67 she died at Columbus Hospital, Chicago, December 22, 1917, having crossed the ocean twenty-five times, and opened sixty-seven Houses throughout the world.

She was naturalized as a citizen of the United States in Seattle, Washington, in 1909.

Twenty-one years after her death, Pope Pius XI declared her "Beata" (Blessed) on November 13, 1938.

The Decree of her Canonization was signed by Pope Pius XII, on January 11, 1944, but because of the World War, the actual ceremonies were delayed until July 7, 1946, when she was canonized in Rome—the first saint of the United States.

The Feast Day of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini is celebrated on November 13th.

Many favors are reported by people who have recourse to Mother Cabrini's intercession.

MOTHER CABRINI LEAGUE
434 W. Deming Pl., Chicago, Illinois 60614

Can One be Relieved of His Vows?

We are living in a sad era in which hosts of priests and religious Brothers and Sisters are trampling their obligations underfoot and obtaining so-called "dispensations: from their vows. What should we think about this? The following story, drawn from the life of Saint Remigius, provides us with matter for serious reflection.

Genebaud, a Gallo-Roman nobleman who was well educated in letters, had married the niece of Saint Remigius. He soon desired to enter the ecclesiastical state, so **he separated voluntarily from his wife, who entered a monastery.** Such was the ordinance of Church Law.

Because of Genebaud's knowledge and virtues, Saint Remigius chose him to become the first Bishop of Laon. But, unfortunately, the prelate was unfaithful to his promise : he called back his wife, whom he had left for love of Jesus Christ. God had pity on him, and caused him to understand all the gravity of his crime. Following the example of Saint Peter the Apostle, he wept over his sin with all the bitterness of his soul. In the belief that only Saint Remigius could draw him out of the abyss he had fallen into, he wrote to him, asking him to come and speak with him regarding an important matter. The Saint came to Laon; Genebaud knelt at his feet and tearfully confessed, removing his stole from his neck in order to strip himself of the lofty marks of his dignity.

Remigius wept with him, encouraged him in his good resolution and consoled him by speaking of the infinite mercy of God. But Church discipline required that he be **punished severely for the scandal** he had given his people. Ready for anything, Genebaud would perform the most rigorous of penances. Shut up in a narrow cell whose door was closed with Saint Remigius' seal, he remained alone, praying and mortifying himself until the day Heaven would let him know that he had merited by his fasting, his tears and pravers, the Lord's mercy and forgiveness for his sin. During this time, Remigius took charge of his diocese, officiating on alternate Sundays in Rheims and in Laon.

Genebaud's penance lasted **seven years**, up until the moment an angel came down from Heaven to tell him that the Lord had heard his venerable father's prayers and was satisfied with the austere penance that had been imposed upon him. The angel opened the cell door as proof of his mission, all the while respecting the seal of the Bishop of Rheims. But Genebaud did not want to leave saying, «I will not go out of this place until the one who enclosed me here in the name of Jesus Christ comes to deliver me.»

At that very moment, Saint Remigius was praying in his Church of Notre Dame in Rheims. In an ecstasy, God gave him to understand all that was going on at Laon. He arose instantly, admirably consoled, and soon arrived at the cell with the open door. He found his nephew prostrate with his face to the ground, raised him up and embraced him tenderly, weeping tears of joy. Both of them blessed the Lord for His great mercy. Genebaud was solemnly reestablished in his honor and dignity, and the holiness of his life was afterwards so great that he died full of blessings and merit. **The Church has placed him in the catalogue of her saints, on September 5.**

Cf. Etienne d'Avenay, **Saint Rémi de Reims, apôtre des Francs.** (Desclée de Brouwer & Cie.: 1899), pp 104-105.

THE INDISPENSABLE!

by Father Jean-Grégoire de la Trinité, O.D.M.

"THE SPIRIT OF THIS ORDER IS NONE OTHER THAN THE SPIRIT OF JESUS-CHRIST IN ONESELF AND THE SPIRIT OF JESUS CHRIST IN SOULS."

(RULE OF THE ORDER OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, ART. 2)

What is Meant by "The Spirit of God"?

We are sometimes asked: «You are a new Community, so what is your spirit ? Do you have a special spirituality ?» I have always answered, «Our special spirituality is the Gospel and trying to have the Spirit of Jesus Christ.» Jesus, the expression of the Thought of the Father: therein lies our spirituality.

To have the Spirit of God is to think, or at least to try and think the way Jesus Himself thought. Whatever the situation and in all that happens to us, we must always ask ourselves : **«What does God think of this ? »** God's Thought is very different from that of men. Holy Scripture says that the thoughts of men are as far removed from the thoughts of God as Heaven is from earth.[1] For instance, suffering is a bargain, a happiness and a grace in the eyes of God. On the other hand, it is a detestable misfortune from the human standpoint. «Let's get rid of our crosses,» human language would say, whereas **divine language beatifies suffering :** «Blessed are those who weep...»[2]

If it is with human eyes that you look at a poor, badly dressed man, living in a poorly furnished old house, practically penniless and with nearly nothing to eat, then you will think : here's a sad case for you, a pitiful old soul. That is the human way of judging things. But God's thinking is different : «Blessed are the poor in spirit,» says Our Lord, «for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.»[3] **When the earth fails us,** my brothers and sisters, **Heaven bows down; we have Heaven.**

Take the case of men who are praised and prosperous, appreciated and acclaimed. Humanly speaking, people say : «How lucky they are ! Everyone treats them royally wherever they go.» Another person arrives, nobody bothers with him; it's as if he were nothing. People even run away from him. They snub him or insult him. He is the really lucky person, because Our Lord Jesus Christ said : «Blessed are you when men... persecute you... for My sake.»[4] Blessed are you if your relatives and friends reject you because you want to follow Christ and His Gospel more perfectly !

1. Is. 55:9.
2. Mt. 5:4.
3. Mt. 5:3.
4. Mt. 5:11.

On All Saints Day some famous Saints "come to life" at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Pueblo, Colorado. If I'm not mistaken, St. Patrick and St. Thomas Aquinas were among us that day.

A special First Holy Communion Day at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish. Looks like Mrs. Linda Resendez baked a cake for the occasion.

Jim and Wilhelmina Ellison and Ted Tycocki at the original site of the Sangre de Cristo Christian Academy.

Pat and Carl Scavo at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Pueblo. Pat is the secretary who makes possible the continued publication of this newsletter.

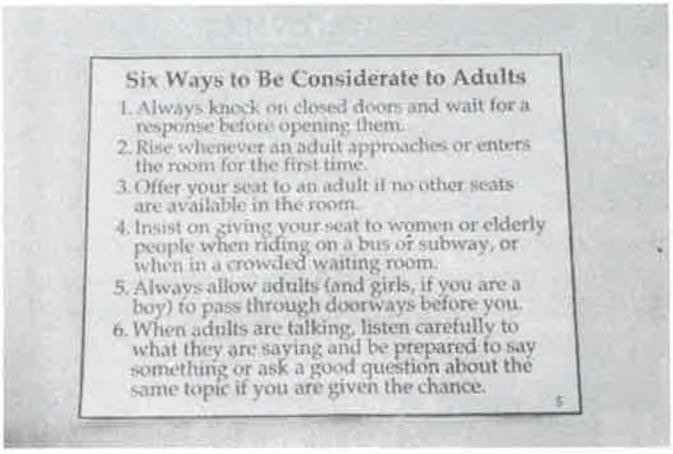
Thelma Hill and daughter Regina Autobee at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Pueblo.

Bryce Penny at the Skyland Apple Shed in Delta, Colorado, sees that a few of us folks in eastern Colorado get to taste some of the best apples in the country. Here we even get to sample a few peaches. The California Tomatoes is on the box just to fool the custom agents!

Above is Cotton Lake in the beautiful Sangre de Cristo Mountains of Colorado. Lower left, your editor wil try anything (smile) to get the excess wax out of his ears. Paul Curtis from Uxbridge, Ontario, Canada, and Raymond Rohloff of Poncha Springs, Colorado, and that other guy trekked a fair piece that week last summer to enjoy a few hours at this mystic lake!

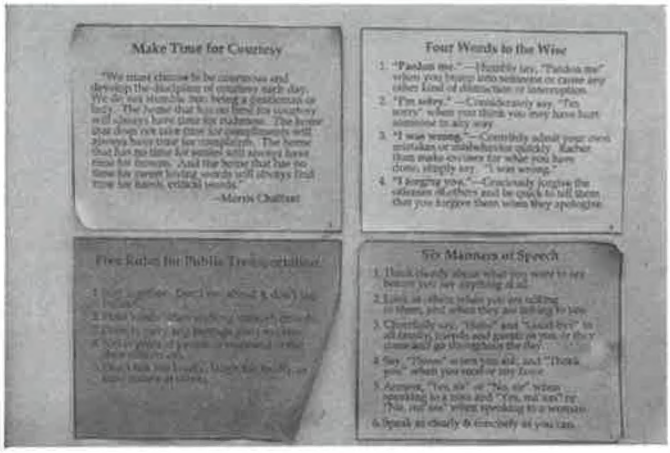
THE SANGRE DE CRISTO CHRISTIAN ACADEMY, P.O. Box 565, Westcliffe, Colorado 81252, got off the ground in 1996. They are making plans to build a new schoolhouse soon.

The old Willows School House served the Academy in its first year, grades 1 through 8.



Six Ways to Be Considerate to Adults

1. Always knock on closed doors and wait for a response before opening them.
2. Rise whenever an adult approaches or enters the room for the first time.
3. Offer your seat to an adult if no other seats are available in the room.
4. Insist on giving your seat to women or elderly people when riding on a bus or subway, or when in a crowded waiting room.
5. Always allow adults (and girls, if you are a boy) to pass through doorways before you.
6. When adults are talking, listen carefully to what they are saying and be prepared to say something or ask a good question about the same topic if you are given the chance.



Make Time for Courtesy

Four Words to the Wise

Good teachers, discipline and rules have had a part to play in giving this school a Christian atmosphere. Your editor has had the good fortune to be invited to visit the school from time to time, and is on of its enthusiastic supporters.

Mark Giese at the Juniper Gallery, P.O. Box 424, Poncha Springs, CO 81242, has produced some quite nice and unusual wood carvings and rustic furniture.

"Golf Cart Experts" Mrs. Vivian Jones and **Mrs. Dorothy Wachter, enjoying a royal tour of the Doug Jones Sawmill in Grand** Junction, Colorado.

Photo taken during the memorable 1997 May Crowning at the Toronto mission of the Apostles of Infinite Love.

Steffen and Lenora Heinrich with three of their children (Krista, Tara and Steffen) at the May Crowning.

Tena and Aunesti Carroll of West Bend, Wisconsin.

All Saints Day at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Pueblo, Colorado.

THE ERA OF MERCY

A number of modern revelations insist upon a relatively unknown prerogative of the Heart of Jesus: His Merciful Love for souls. The love of God certainly does not exclude His Justice, which must deal severely with unrepentant men. But a feeble, little heart which sees itself as such, humbles itself and always seeks to do better, triumphs over the Heart of Jesus, so to speak; it charms Our Lord and obtains wonders of grace from His Mercy. The excerpts of messages quoted below (dark letters between quotation marks) are taken from **Le Livre de l'Amour Miséricordieux** — in English, the title would be: **The Book of Merciful Love** (Grand Séminaire: Arras, France, 1934). Father John Gregory of the Trinity comments on them:

"I do nothing without the consent of My creatures, whom I associate to Myself in order to fulfill My designs. I have told you that I want to use auxiliaries, and the auxiliary must have one and the same will with his Lord."

Our Lord speaks as though everything depends on men. He could do everything by Himself, but He wants to associate us to His work. Why did He not evangelize the whole world Himself when He came on earth, instead of staying in little Palestine? He could have transported Himself instantaneously from one place to another. It would have been a trifle for Him. But that is not what He did; He conferred the care of spreading the Gospel to His Apostles: *"Go and teach all nations,"* (Matt. 28:19) He told them.

God wants to need men. He is always ready to pour out His grace, convert sinners and pagans, but He awaits our collaboration. Everything is in our hands, in a way. **"The auxiliary must have one and the same will with his Lord."** We must act as Jesus taught us and proceed as He wills.

"Look... Listen... Little Church, little Jerusalem. I will show you My heavenly Work."

Our Lord employs the expression **"little Church"** in a number of places. Therefore, He is speaking to a little Church, not to the ordinary Church.

"Seek My divine presence amid the miserable appearances of your neighbor. Behold My tabernacles: honor them."

Where shall we seek God? Not amid the *wondrous* appearances of our neighbor, but amid his *miserable* appearances. It is easy to see God in a virtuous person. But it is difficult to see God in a poor wretched soul who is full of faults, who is all dirty and ragged. God sometimes puts on quite a disguise.

However, there is no doubt that our neighbor, whoever he is, is the vehicle of God Himself: *"As long as you did it for one of these, the least of My brothers, you did it for Me."* (Matt. 25:40)

"When I am all love reigning in a soul, it becomes all love for God and all mercy for its neighbor."

This love and mercy are the signs of the presence of God in a soul. When we are hard, scornful, nasty with others, God does not abide in us; He is far from us. *"Whoever says he loves God whom he does not see and does not love his brother whom he sees is a liar."* (I John 4:20) God does not live in a soul that does not love Him. *"God is love."* (I John 4:16) Our attitude toward our neighbor will be imbued with love if God abides in us.

God inhabits a soul at varying degrees of intensity. We can lack charity and still have God's presence in us, but it is like a weak light bulb that is to light up an immense room. The divine current may be in the soul, but the lighting will be weak if correspondence to God's grace is weak. Our correspondence to grace can be symbolized by the light bulbs that let the current flow.

"The misery which recognizes and avows itself scoops out the bed of My mercy. The misery which humbles itself offers Me the slope upon which I want to let the waves of My infinite tenderness flow."

We must believe in the infinite mercy of Jesus, but we must also know that there are conditions to earn it; and the first condition is to recognize our misery interiorly, we must admit it. Many people know they are in error or behaving badly, but they do not want to admit it. They put on a nice facade and would like others to think they are impeccable, while deep down they know very well they are blameworthy. God wants us to admit our mistakes to the right person. **"The misery which recognizes and avows itself hollows out the bed of My mercy."**

"Just as it pleased Me to reveal the holiness of My justice and prepare a legion of saints forming its Court, so it pleases Me now to reveal My Mercy to the world and prepare the legion of miserable ones who will form its Court."

When we read the lives of the Saints, we see that in past times the Saints had tremendous heroism. Yesterday I was reading the life of Saint Peter Baptist; I said to myself, "That's impossible. We will never be able to reach this man's ankles. We will never come to anything." I was really discouraged. But how encouraging it is, what God wants to do for us! **"It pleases Me now to reveal My Mercy to the world and prepare the legion of miserable ones who will form its Court."** A new legion of saints: miserable, full of faults. Once there were perfect saints, but now God has decided to make a new kind of saint.

Does this mean we must keep our faults? Far from it! But sometimes, despite our efforts, God permits us to arrive at only pitiful results. What He wants with His new saints is extraordinary humility and sovereign self-scorn – not spite or rage, but a sincere scorn before the depths of their misery. On reading the exploits of Saint Peter Baptist, I got demoralized; but on reading this message of Merciful Love, my courage returned. Besides, that is what I myself heard *(in a mystical message),* but I did not believe it.

"I am the Lord of all, I am calling the little ones to Me, the poor and all the miserable... I will beatify them Myself, I will glorify them Myself."

Our Lord proceeds a little as in the parable of the wedding feast: The Master had invited fine, great people to the wedding, and they did not come. So the Master commanded, *"Go therefore to the crossroads, and invite to the marriage feast whomever you shall find."* (Matt. 22:9) In other words, "Gather the tramps, the lice-ridden, those who are dawdling around and those covered in rags." That is our category. To begin with, Our Lord called good holy people to found this little Church which is to operate the renewal of Christianity. But they were too respectable. They did not want to go along with such a compromising, ignominious work. So God spoke to sinners. He called us, **"the little ones, the poor and the miserable."**

Out Lord asked that privileged soul to make God's plans known to the Church, and then to pray and suffer for the fulfillment of these designs. That is also what He wants from us presently.

"Come to Me, all of you little ones. If anyone is very little, let him come. Little child, you will spell out the word-for-word of My sacrifice and refer to all My actions one by one in the same spirit of love, for the glory of our Father. Be the Gospel, the continuation of the Holy Gospel."

God wants us to be a Gospel that is the continuation of His own. Not a new Gospel or one that parallels or rivals His, but one that is the prolongation of the teaching of Jesus Christ. **"Be the Gospel, the continuation of the Holy Gospel."** Continue My Gospel, My Good News, in the same direction. A continuation is made in the same direction as what is being continued. Saint Paul said, *"I fill up in my flesh what is lacking of the Passion of Christ."* (Col. 1:24) We must be a continuation of Christ, not something apart.

"My daughter, I am the Evangelical Heart, and I want to establish a school in the holy hour."

These words mean that God wants to teach us in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. How quickly our lives would be transformed if we had recourse to God in the Sacred Host in all our difficulties, and if we listened to Him both in joy and in suffering. **"I will communicate Myself to you: My Spirit to your spirit, My Heart to your heart, and My Will of love to your will."**

"Proclaim this to the world. I will fill up those who are famished for justice and truth. I will make apostles of My glorious Resurrection out of My auxiliaries."

The new auxiliaries are to be the apostles of the Resurrection; they will make Him resurrect. Christ has been morally killed. Christianity has been destroyed in a hypocritical, underhanded manner. The churches are still there, but true Christianity is dead in most so-called Christians. We will experience a resurrection of Christ in the near future.

"You are the chosen people, the holy nation: be the Gospel of God. You are sanctified by the Spirit, sanctify yourselves again in view of the reign of His Christ, for you are the Eucharist of God."

These words strangely resemble what we have been told here: "You are My nation..." A special nation. A nation in which all differences of race, language and education vanish to give way to the ideal and the common passion: the love and the service of God.

"I will reign when My sons, identified to My sole Beloved, affirm My domination of love by their submission to the sweet yoke of My Gospel."

God will reign when we shall be identified to Our Lord, when we shall be one with Him, and when we shall affirm the domination of God, a domination of love, by our submission to the sweet yoke of the Gospel.

"I will reign when all My brothers, consummated into one through the Eucharist, acclaim My royalty of love by the works of their faith, and on their brow wear the seal of their belonging to God by an effective consecration. I will reign when My people, elect of My Heart and glorified in My grace, having realized unity in truth and charity, shall offer Me a perfect homage of glorification through the covenant."

Unity is often lacking in a so-called charity which is outside the truth. We must speak the truth, and speak to each other. We cannot arrive at unity by false relations of politeness among ourselves. That is the habit everywhere: smile nicely to everyone. But it is hypocrisy, usually there is no truth in it. We must speak openly among ourselves if we want to form a family; otherwise our relations are false and each person remains in his own positions. The result: a little cold war.

Sometimes real love starts with a quarrel. Disputes often stem from misunderstandings. But after both have presented their idea, they see that one was half right and the other half wrong. The situation clears up. But the light would never have come if they had remained in their little corner. We can say, "My God, give us unity!" but it will not fall from heaven ready-made without effort on our part. Unity will never come about that way.

Unity will be made in charity and truth. Not just in charity, but in truth. Besides, there is no real charity without truth. You often hear it said, "To keep the peace, I say nothing; thus harmony prevails." But that is NOT how harmony prevails if there is unity of spirit in charity and truth. Only then does the true harmony that God wills prevail. The other is not authentic. There is no real fusion of two souls if a husband has his idea and his wife thinks differently, and both hold to their respective positions. God wants a fusion of souls. The reign of God will come about when this true unity comes about.

In the Secret of La Salette, the Blessed Virgin says, *"There will be unity among the workers of Jesus Christ."* They will have one and the same doctrine and be unanimous. There will not be different schools. This is one of the special signs of the preaching of the Apostles of the Latter Times: **unanimity of doctrine.** You will not hear one preaching one thing and then another coming to say the opposite. That is what is being done now. Preachers are destroying one another. To avoid contradicting each other, we must have the same spirit – not the same human spirit, but the same Spirit of God. We must know what God thinks about each question. We must be enlightened by the Holy Spirit, study under the true representatives of God, and also know how to speak in truth and charity.

Union will achieve everything. The battle will be won when there is a group of souls wholly united in God, according to His spirit. There will be a perfect homage of glorification rendered to God. **"I will reign when this happens,"** says Jesus. As soon as God has a group of united souls – not just juxtaposed bodies but merged souls – the rest will come; the rest is a mere trifle. But nothing will be done as long as this unity does not exist.

That is why God wanted to gather us here, why He has already said to us, "If souls wanted to do My Will, they would all come here if that were possible." We know that the necessary formation of the Apostles of the Latter Times is not given just anywhere.

"Love the poor because of his poverty, love the little one because of his feebleness, love the infirm because of his infirmity, love the sinner because of his misery. Hate sin, but love the sinner. All souls, even the most miserable, are My children. What I am telling you, poor beloved misery of My Heart, I want to tell all weak and miserable souls as soon as they lend themselves to My tender mercy. Make the world hear the voice of My Merciful Love. If men know how good I am, they would all cast themselves into the abyss of My Heart, which I am opening to them."

The privileged soul asked Our Lord, "Why is it that among so many Christians, so few give themselves to Your Merciful Heart? What is missing in them to decide this?" He replied, "THE HUMILITY AND CONFIDENCE OF A CHILD. That is why I want to remind the world of My evangelical doctrine of spiritual childhood."

"The Lord says to you: Immobilize yourself in all ways, until you have become the road on which He is to pass to go to souls."

"Immobilize yourself in all ways..." Stabilize ourselves in peace: not be at the mercy of all our feelings, not get upset, overwhelmed by all that happens, vexations. God wants calm souls that master their passions.

We must train ourselves, perform the needed spiritual gymnastics to master our human feelings, which we often mistake as inspirations of the Holy Spirit. The winds that blow over our soul are not always like the gust of Pentecost! They are the winds of our passions and our too-human natural feelings, feelings of revolt. They prevent God from using us as a channel of grace for others, a road on which He wants to pass. Souls living in a storm sweep all the soil off the road God is trying to build with them. All is demolished as things go on. **"Immobilize yourself in all ways, until you have become the road on which He is to pass to go to souls..."**

"Cry out to your brothers what I have taught you in secret. Go, tell the invited guests, 'The Feast is ready. Come to the wedding feast of the Lamb.' I am Merciful Love...

"Give your misery to Me and I will give you My Mercy... Go out to the Shepherds who are keeping watch over their flocks by night. And bring them the evangelical message, the Eucharistic message of the Heart of God..."

COAT OF ARMS

Of Father Daniel E. Jones, T.O.D.M.,
who was consecrated Bishop on December 8, 1994.

"Do we recognize those indications in ourselves: joy and peace, signs of humility, or sadness and trouble, sign of pride?"

- - 1969 MAGNIFICAT, p. 307

I want my coat of arms to stand for joy, peace and humility. These are among the characteristics that Jesus and Mary have indicated to us in Their Own Lives and through various instruments; characteristics that are to be part and parcel of the Renewed Church of Jesus Christ. "The new kings will be the right arm of the Holy Church, which will be strong, humble, pious, poor, zealous and imitative of the virtues of Jesus Christ." - - Our Lady in the Secret of La Salette.

The soft colors of red, blue, yellow and green symbolize the meek and humble Holy Trinity and the Divine Mary, Mother of God.

Our Lady of Guadalupe is in the center, the Woman of chapter 12 of the Apocalypse. She is bringing forth a male child, perhaps the Holy Pontiff or the Great Monarch, or both. "This male child is therefore a Shepherd; he is the Great Pontiff, he who overcomes, whose advent Christ had already proclaimed during the fourth age of the Church: 'And to him who overcomes, and who keeps My works unto the end, I will give authority over the nations. And he shall rule them with a rod of iron.' - -Apoc. 2:26-28. Let us mention that besides chapter 19, verse 15, which is applied directly to the Word of God, the Apocalypse speaks only in 2:26-27 and in 12:5 of a personage destined to rule the nations with a rod of iron, that is, with the intransigence of the pure truth of the Gospel." - - THOU ART PETER page 786.

In the upper left hand corner is the white cross with the Holy Eucharist and the Heart of Jesus in the center. This is the emblem worn by all the Religious in the Order of the Mother of God, the Apostles of Infinite Love of St. Jovite. I wear this emblem, too, as a Third Order member of this Community. It is the Community raised up under the mantle of Our Lady of La Salette to sustain and work with the Great Pontiff and the Great Monarch.

In the upper right is a dove symbolizing the Holy Ghost. We are at the dawn of the age of the Holy Ghost and His Spouse, Mary! I think He is preparing us for the revelation of the "Secret of Mary", enkindling fires in the hearts of Christians and others all around the world, which little fires will soon unite into one great fire, into the one and great Fold of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, all recognizing the leadership of the aforesaid Pontiff and Monarch.

In the lower left is St. Therese of the Child Jesus, the Little Flower whom Pope Pius XI called the greatest Saint of modern times, she is the Spiritual Mistress of the Order of the Mother of God. I attribute my vocation to the priesthood, and so much more, to her. She and Our Lady of Guadalupe are the co-patronesses of the Diocese of Pueblo, where I was raised and for which diocese I was ordained a priest on June 29, 1968.

The mountains in the lower right hand corner are the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of Colorado. They are one of the longest continual high range of mountains in North America. These majestic peaks were once part of the ocean floor judging from the fossils found in them. This reminds me of the MAGNIFICAT of Our Lady: "He has put down the mighty from their throne, and has exalted the humble." Sangre de Cristo means Blood of Christ. The Prayer of the Mother of Salvation encourages us to pray thus: ". . .May the Eternal Father through the Precious Blood of Jesus be merciful unto me, and may the Mother of Salvation be my salvation. . ." I was born in

Westcliffe, Colorado, at the foot of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains.

The bird is an eagle, which is a symbol of St. John the Evangelist who stood with Mary at the foot of the Cross, and later wrote the Apocalypse. Some of the events foretold in the Apocalypse seem indeed to be unfolding in our day. I aspire to always be a faithful part of the Body of Christ, a member of the visible Church of Jesus Christ symbolized by the Woman of chapter 12 of the Apocalypse. "And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness..." - Apoc. 12:14 "Where the Body is, there will the eagles be gathered together." - Luke 17:37. "But they that hope in the Lord. . . shall take wings as eagles. . ." - IS 40:31. "Bless the Lord, O my soul. . .Who satisfieth thy desire with good things: thy youth shall be renewed like the eagle's." - Psalm 102:1-5.

Let's not forget the cross on top of the shield and the cross within the shield, and the crucified Christ over the mountains. The CROSS! We were redeemed by the Cross of Jesus! The crosses in our lives are like gold nuggets in a farmers' field. Should he, the farmer, be irritated by them and discard them, or should he treasure them? The crucifix and rosary on one of the peaks is part of the emblem on the masthead of my SANGRE DE CRISTO NEWSNOTES, which emblem I obtained permision to use from the late Yves Dupont, author of the book CATHOLIC PROPHECIES and editor of WORLD TRENDS magazine published in Australia during the 1960's and 1970's.

The sun rising over the mountains represents the dawn of the resurrection of the Church. The dear, late Father Roderick J. MacNeil on November 27, 1993, while visiting with Father John Gregory, looked at him and said warmly: "It was prophesied that the Church would die and rise again. I have witnessed its death; and in you, Father, and in your Work, I see the dawn of its resurrection."

The motto, AGE QUOD AGIS, at the bottom of the shield means "DO WHAT YOU DO". It is a way of saying "Be wholehearted"! Our Lord said: "I would that you be hot or cold. . . not lukewarm". The spiritual masters tell us God wants all or nothing. Thou shalt love the Lord Thy God with thy whole heart. So the charge of Bishop, or whatever charge God may give me, I want to accomplish to the full, with all my heart. Anything worth doing is worth doing well. "He who is faithful in the little things. . ." - Luke 16:10

The Magnificat Community made a few 8" x 10" cards portraying this coat of arms in color. If you would like one, please write and let me know. Time and circumstances permitting, I will then get one to you.

Te Deum Laudamus

✝

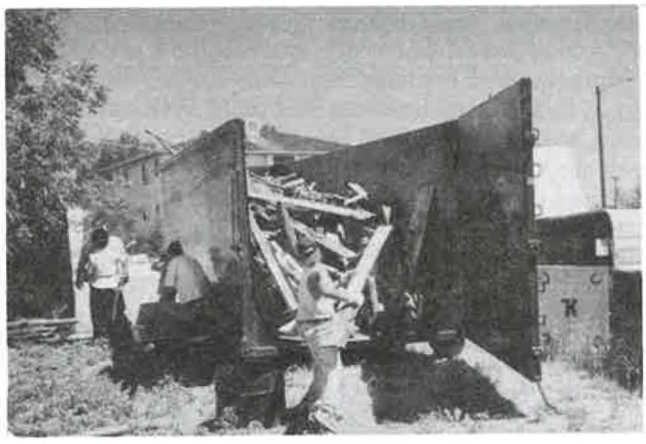
Souvenir
of the
Episcopal Consecration of
FATHER DANIEL E. JONES, T.O.D.M.
Itinerant Bishop
in the service of the
Holy Church of Jesus Christ,
under the jurisdiction of
Gregory XVII

DECEMBER 8, 1994
at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
Pueblo, Colorado, U.S.A.

Richard Slusher and Mrs. Linda Resendez keeping the weeds down at the recently acquired 150 x 125 feet lot next to Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Pueblo.

Jose Flores was one of several who helped fill 3 forty-yard dumpsters with trash from the same vacant lot, which lot is scheduled to be a shrine and outdoor stations of the cross site before long.

Mr. Frank Marquez and three of his several daughters, Succoro, Maria, and Lauri, at I.H.M. Church in Pueblo.



Jose Flores' grandson Chris doing his part to get one of the dumpsters loaded.

Some of the "Colorado Pilgrims" visiting in May 1998 with Mother Louise, O.D.M., at the Apostle's mission-farm near Ste. Veronique, Quebec.

1998 is a year of some major construction projects at the Magnificat Monastery in St. Jovite.

SEEK THE TRUTH AND FLEE DECEIT

– by Father John Gregory of the Trinity, O.D.M.

My brothers and sisters, I would like to invite you to study the Holy Gospel ever more thoroughly. We read or hear the words of Our Lord, but do not delve deeply into anything; we are shallow. It is by the light of God and knowledge of the Gospel that we come to discern and refute the diabolical errors circulating in the world today. All is deceit. Literature, newspapers, television convey ideas that come straight out of hell. Everything is presented in a subtle manner to falsify people's notions and lead them away from the true doctrine of Christ, the true Gospel.

Most souls do not know the truth and the things of God sufficiently. They do not have enough moral fiber to face up to all these lies, and that is why the influences of the world cast them so easily into darkness. Youth has lost the Faith. Everywhere you meet up with people who say, "I don't believe in anything any more." These poor souls were fed on error, and therein they found disaster.

Let us be on our guard lest we also fall into the sea of lies submerging the world today. Our mother Eve lent an ear to the serpent who tempted her, and she fell into sin; she plunged humanity into misery. We sometimes want to act like our mother Eve and listen to the devil when he tells us, "God wants to tyrannize you, He wants to keep you in ignorance. You have to liberate yourself. Listen to me, and I will tell you what to do to know everything and to become as gods."

The devil is repeating today the same thing he said to our mother Eve. Listen to me," he says, "and I will smarten you up, I will make you free..." But Our Lord tells us, *"I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life.* (John 14:6) *He who follows Me does not walk in the darkness."* (John 8:12)

We should penetrate ourselves with the truth and seek the true light, my brothers and sisters. This is very important – otherwise we will perish.

God withdrew us here into this Community, out of the world. He placed us in this Cenacle, and the breastplate which should protect us from hell is the Truth of God. This Truth should serve as a light to illuminate each one of our steps.

But what must we do to impregnate ourselves with the truth, to acquire the spirit of God? **We must walk according to the Will of God.** We read on the very first page of **The Imitation of Christ**, *"He that follows Me walks not in darkness,* says Our Lord. These are the words of Christ, by which we are admonished that **we must imitate His life and manners if we would be truly enlightened and delivered from all blindness of heart."**

God gives His light to those who walk in His footsteps. The day we become souls prepared to do everything to accomplish the holy Will of God, we will be enlightened, sheltered from all deceit, protected from all the snares and wiles of the devil. Neither the devil nor the world will be able to deceive us. We will be able to discern what is of God and what is not.

Believe and obey God

Our Lord tells us, *"He who loses his life for My sake will find it."* (Matt. 10:39) When God wants something, we should be ready for everthing to obey. Look at all the

martyrs. They died rather than yield and disobey God. They did not hesitate for a moment: "Cut off my head and do what you want with my body, but I cannot separate from the Will of God!" This is the mentality we must have if we truly want to be Christians. No human reason may prevail when God wants something.

God said to Abraham, "Go and immolate your son Isaac." Abraham did not answer, "That makes no sense, Lord. Since when does a father kill his own son? You can't be serious! My little boy, who I love so much and who You gave me miraculously? You are going just a little too far this time, Lord!" No, Abraham did not quibble over God's command, he did not hesitate for a moment. God had spoken, so he went to immolate his only son. Seeing his faith and total obedience, God performed a miracle to save Isaac.

Christians have lost the notion of obedience to God. Even if they know that something is displeasing to God, they do it anyway, to satisfy themselves. Thus the great majority of people live in darkness.

Light will come to souls by submission to God in all things – submission to the Ten Commandments, submission to the Holy Gospel of Our Lord.

Always more

God invites us to give Him everything: *"Every one of you who does not renounce all that he possesses cannot be My disciple."* (Matt. 10:39) God invites us to total renouncement; He invites us to go forward, to always do more. He even makes it into a kind of obligation: *"Every one of you who does not renounce all that he possesses cannot be My disciple."* These are the words of Jesus, Truth itself.

The world goes against this Truth continually. "God does not expect so much. You can't be more Catholic than the Pope!" they say, and all sorts of other expressions, deceitful words because they go against the Truth, against the Gospel.

The spirit of God always urges us to do more, not less. We are not moving forward but backward if, out of cowardice, we want to abandon the service of God and take back what we have given Him. *"No one, having put his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God,"* says Our Lord. (Luke 9:62) And we do the devil's work if by our words we encourage souls to look back.

Many people think they are very enlightened, although they are actually doing diabolical work. They incite souls to take back what they have given to God. They find all sorts of good reasons to convince themselves: "Times have changed, and you have to change with them... The Good Lord understands," and so on. But the only reason is cowardice.

One day Saint Peter wanted to turn Jesus away from suffering. He called him a Satan: *"Get behind Me, Satan, you are a scandal to Me; for you do not mind the things of God, but those of men."* (Matt. 16:23) Peter had made the mistake of telling Jesus, "I don't want You to suffer. Lord, You must not suffer this Passion."

The very fact of opposing the Cross turns us into diabolical beings in Our Lord's sight. But this is what the world does continually. Find me a soul that does not oppose the Cross! There are very, very few. Even the best people say, "Don't worry about it. God doesn't expect so much. He is not *that* demanding."

And yet, *"how narrow the gate and close the way that leads to life! And few there are who find it."* (Matt. 7:14) These words do not coincide with the theories that are presently in vogue. If Our Lord returned to earth, He would say to a great many people, *"Get behind Me, Satan,"* just as He said to Saint Peter.

Primacy in the service of God

God created us to know, to love and to serve Him in this world, and to be happy with Him in heaven for all eternity. This is another truth based on the Gospel and taught in our penny catechism. All the rest is secondary.

My brothers and sisters, we must be impregnated with the thought that on earth we are on our way to eternity, in preparation for heaven. That is the ONLY REASON God created us. But today people are preoccupied with everything but this sole necessity. By this alone, you can see that deceit is reigning everywhere.

Almost no one attaches any importance to the salvation of his soul, even among those who believe they are devout Christians. What takes precedence and concentrates all energies, what is important, is to become somebody, to secure one's future and make money. *"Seek FIRST the kingdom of God and His justice, and all these things shall be given you besides."* (Matt. 6:33) People do the opposite. They seek the "besides," and if the kingdom of God happens to get thrown into the bargain, then so much the better!

The world lives for diplomas and doctorates, careers which represent nothing, hoarding money and being held in esteem. And that is the truth. They live empty lives in which God has no place, or a very secondary one. People say, "If we have any extra time, we will recite a few brief prayers and perform a few good works to purchase heaven." What an error!

People reject the basic principles of Christianity all down the line, and that is why they are living in an ocean of deceit. Everything is falsified. *"God created us to know Him, to love Him and to serve Him."* That is the truth, my brothers and sisters. And everything that goes counter to this truth is a lie, even if it comes from a priest, a bishop, or even a pope.

If Saint Peter, the first pope, chosen by Our Lord, deserved to be called a henchman of Satan, then you may imagine that many others deserve to be also. We fall into deceit every time we go against the Gospel and the primacy of the supernatural, for everything on earth must be sacrificed to the supernatural.

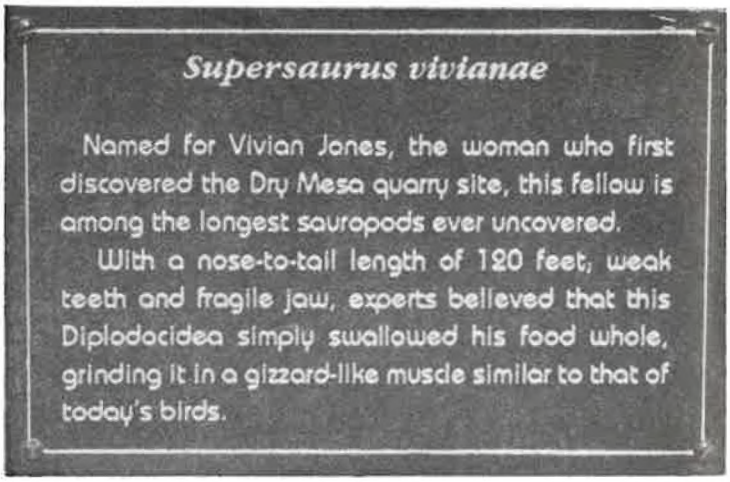
All doctrine today is erroneous under the appearances of truth. Modern religious teaching, for instance, judges all things from a human point of view. Therein lies the error. You falsify everything, you depart completely from the truth and fall into deceit as soon as you want to judge things from a human, earthly viewpoint. This is the great heresy of our time: humanizing the Gospel, judging everything from a human, earthbound viewpoint, setting aside the primacy of the divine, of the supernatural.

For a Christian, everything must yield to God and the supernatural. An enormous number of fine folks today are in darkness and uphold things that go counter to God because they have lost the sense of the supernatural. Few souls have the light, very few. Even the best ones fall, even the best do not discern error.

Looking out over the East Fork of the Escalante Canyon and towards Love Mesa, from the Dry Mesa Dinosaur Quarry in West Central Colorado.

Mrs. Dorothy Wachter next to nice sign at the entrance to the Dinosaur Quarry.

One of the quarry's founders, Mrs. Vivian Jones, visiting with a Forest Service employee at the Delta, Colorado, Forest Service Office. The Dry Mesa Quarry is the only dinosaur quarry we know of located on U.S. Forest Service land.


Supersaurus vivianae
Named for Vivian Jones, the woman who first discovered the Dry Mesa quarry site, this fellow is among the longest sauropods ever uncovered.
With a nose-to-tail length of 120 feet, weak teeth and fragile jaw, experts believed that this Diplodocidea simply swallowed his food whole, grinding it in a gizzard-like muscle similar to that of today's birds.

Plaque at the Forest Service display (normally used, I think, at the permanent display at the Dynamation museum in Fruita, Colorado).

Vivian Jones gets a chance to see the special display that was for a time during 1997 set up at the Delta, Colorado U.S. Forest Service Office.

The surviving children of Frank and Anna Falkenberg of Westcliffe, Colorado: l. to r. Vivian Jones, Theresa Payne, Helen Ruminer, Frances Byrne, Evie Miller and Bill Falkenberg.

Frank Falkenberg of Westcliffe, Colorado, passed away in 1955, if my memory serves me right. He is your editor's grandfather.

Charles (Bub) Piquette and Daniel (Eddie) Jones, your editor's godfather and father in a photo taken 55 or so years ago at the back entrance to what is currently your editor's Westcliffe home.

When this photo was taken in the mid 1940's, your editor (the middle of the 3 little boys, I think) was taller than the Colorado blue spruce tree just planted next to the fence on the left. His grandma, Anna Falkenberg, is standing (1st one on the left side), and his mother Vivian Jones is kneeling on the lower right holding younger brother Gordon Richard (Dick) Jones. The others in the lower row are Tony and Dorothy Wachter and son Andy of Chicago, Illinois. They planted that spruce tree and gave me this picture.

Father Dan and the "Colorado Pilgrims" praying their afternoon Rosary during a 2-week retreat at the Monastery of the Magnificat of the Mother of God in St. Jovite, Quebec, Canada

The "Colorado Pilgrims" stop to pray during the latter part of May 1998 in the lovely little chapel at the Apostles' Ste. Veronique mission-farm in the province of Quebec.

In Deus Vivos

By Daniel J. Higgins

Creation by the Great Alone
Was not once done and left,
But is a constant always work
Of warp and woof and weft;
Without which we would cease to be,
And space, and time, and heft.

If He undid His constant thought,
And turned not out but in,
Creation would just not exist,
Farewell, oh race of men;
You are not now and will not be,
Not here, not there, not then.

But in His love for what He is,
And what He has begun,
He carries on so faithfully,
Creating what He's done;
The elemental force of life,
And earth, and sky, and sun.

And so we are supported by
His constant thought of us
Within this universe which is
Himself providing, plus,
It is a framework in a sense,
A bridge, a span, a truss

Whereby we walk from here to there
Within His love and Him,
As if He were the ocean and
We the fish who swim
Unendingly within His Self,
No edge, no peak, no rim

For we are in the Great Alone
As He is in us all,
Completely held by Love in Love
And not a sparrow's fall
Eludes the vision of our Lord,
Within, without, withall!

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